Attorney Docket No. 50325-0106



2155 Uhw

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application	n of:			
Arthur Zava	ilkovsky eta	al)	Confirmation No.: 1727
	•)	Examiner: Kevin T. Bates
Serial No.: 09/6	675,980)	Group Art Unit No.: 2155
Filed on: Septe	mber 29, 20	00)	Gloup Ait Ollit No.: 2133
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Mail Stop Amer Commissioner f P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA	for Patents	0		
	INF	ORMATION DISC	CLOSURE STA	TEMENT
Sir:				
Enclosed	d is a copy o	f Information Discl	osure Citation F	Form PTO-1449 together with
copies of the do	cuments cite	ed on that form. It i	s respectfully re	equested that the cited documents
be considered ar	nd that the en	nclosed Information	n Disclosure Cit	tation Form PTO-1449 be initialed
by the Examine	r to indicate	such consideration	and a copy ther	eof returned to applicant(s).
Pursuant	t to 37 C.F.R	L. § 1.97, the submi	ssion of this Inf	formation Disclosure Statement is
not to be constru	ued as a repr	esentation that a se	arch has been m	nade and is not to be construed as
	_			erial to patentability.
				re Statement is being submitted
				_
under one of the			A to the left of	f the appropriate paragraph):
	37 C.F.R.	§1.97(b).		
<u>X</u>	37 C.F.R. one of the		n this Informatio	on Disclosure Statement includes
	<u>X</u>	A statement pursu	uant to 37 C.F.R	R. §1.97(e)
		1.97(e)(1) T	he undersigned	hereby states that each item of

Seq. No. 1773

information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart

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foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

X 1.97(e)(2) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

37 C.F.R. the follow	§1.97(d). If so, then this Information Disclosure Statement includes ing:
	A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)
	1.97(e)(1) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement; OR
	1.97(e)(2) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
	AND
	A check for \$180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) for submission of the Information Disclosure Statement.
	§1.97(i). Wherein applicants are submitting references before the patent to be placed in the file but not considered by the Patent office.

(1) Accordingly, copies of the references as listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 are submitted herewith for placement in the file. No certification or

fees are deemed necessary.

The Examiner's attention is directed to the following related application(s) for the following reasons (as indicated by an "X" to the left of the appropriate paragraph):

The Examiner is hereby notified that the following related application has been filed:

U.S. Application/ Pat. No.	File Date	Atty. Docket. No.		

This related application contains one or more claims that may be substantially similar to one or more claims in the present application. Therefore, the Examiner is encouraged to reference the file history of the related application as some of the information contained therein may be material to the examination of the present application.

The Examiner is hereby notified that the present application is related to the following related application(s):

U.S. Application/ Pat. No.	File Date	Atty. Docket. No.
	-	

The related application(s) contain(s) one or more claims that may be substantially similar to one or more claims in the present application, those claims may have been rejected in the related application(s), and a different interpretation may have been applied to one or more of the references that are of record in the present application. Therefore, the Examiner is encouraged to review the file history(ies) of the related application(s) as some of the information contained therein may be material to the examination of the present application.

__X ___ The Examiner is hereby notified that for the following related application(s) an Office Action has been received as indicated below:

U.S. Application/	File Date	Office Action	Atty. Docket. No.
Pat. No.		Mailing Date	
09/703,504	October 31, 2000	July 15, 2004	50325-0128
09/347,438	July 2, 1999	July 29, 2004	50325-0074

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The related application(s) contain(s) one or more claims that may be substantially similar to one or more claims in the present application, those claims may have been rejected in the related application(s), and a different interpretation may have been applied to one or more of the references that are of record in the present application. Therefore, the Examiner is encouraged to review the file history(ies) of the related application(s) as some of the information contained therein may be material to the examination of the present application.

Throughout the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees, including any required extension of time fees, and credit all overpayments to deposit account 50-1302. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: September 21, 2004

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

September 2 , 2004 (Date of Deposit)

Jennifer Newell

(Typed or printed name of person mailing correspondence)

Signature of person mailing correspondence

ATTY. DOCKET NO. SERIAL NO. INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION 50325-0106 09/675,980 IN AN APPLICATION **APPLICANT:** (PTO-1449) Arthur Zavalkovsky, et al. **FILING DATE:** GROUP: September 29, 2000 2155 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS U.S. Patent Document Exam. Name of Patentee or Applicant Date of Publication of Pages, Columns, Initial* of Cited Document Lines, Where Cited Document Kind Code² Number MM-DD-YYYY Relevant (If known) Passages or Relevant Figures Appear 6,170,009 **B**1 Mandal et al. 01-02-2001

	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Exam. Cite	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant	Date of	Pages,	T^6		
Initial*	No. ¹	Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (If known)	of Cited Document	Cited Lines, When Document Relevant	Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures		
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Examiner		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , 	Date Considered	
Signature				
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¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard S.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.